#### **MARTIN D-15M**

# Martin Guitar D-15M Acoustic Guitar Instruction Manual

Model: D-15M | Brand: MARTIN

### 1. Introduction and Overview

The Martin D-15M acoustic guitar is a distinguished instrument, drawing inspiration from Martin's classic Style 15 models. This dreadnought guitar features an all-mahogany construction, including an A-frame-X-braced mahogany top, back, and sides. This unique design contributes to its rich, full, and complex tonal characteristics, making it suitable for various musical styles and vocal accompaniments.

The D-15M combines vintage aesthetics with modern playability, offering a comfortable low oval neck shape and a satin finish. Its solid genuine mahogany construction ensures a resonant and powerful projection, providing a distinct voice compared to traditional spruce-topped guitars.





Figure 1: Martin D-15M Acoustic Guitar, Front View

# 2. SETUP

## 2.1 Initial Inspection

Upon receiving your Martin D-15M, carefully remove it from its gig bag or case. Inspect the guitar for any visible damage that may have occurred during shipping. Check the body, neck, headstock, and bridge for cracks, dents, or loose components. If any issues are found, contact your retailer immediately.

#### 2.2 Acclimation

Wood instruments are sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity. Allow your guitar to acclimate to its

new environment for at least 24-48 hours before extensive playing or adjustments. Avoid exposing the guitar to extreme temperatures or rapid changes in humidity.

### 2.3 Tuning

The Martin D-15M is typically tuned to standard EADGBe (low E to high E). Use a reliable electronic tuner for accurate tuning. Gently turn the tuning pegs to adjust the string tension until each string reaches its correct pitch. New strings may require frequent re-tuning as they stretch.



Figure 2: Martin D-15M Headstock Detail

### 2.4 Stringing

The D-15M comes equipped with nickel strings. When replacing strings, it is recommended to use light gauge acoustic guitar strings to maintain optimal playability and tone. Change strings one at a time to maintain neck tension and stability.

## 3. OPERATING

## 3.1 Playing Posture

Proper posture is essential for comfortable and effective playing. Sit upright with both feet flat on the floor, or use a footstool for your fretting foot. Rest the guitar on your right thigh (for right-handed players) with the waist of the guitar curving around your leg. The body should be close to your torso, and the neck angled slightly upwards.

# 3.2 Holding the Guitar

Support the guitar with your body and your fretting hand. Your picking hand should rest comfortably over the strings near the soundhole. Ensure your fretting hand thumb is positioned on the back of the neck, allowing your fingers to arch over the fretboard for clear note articulation.

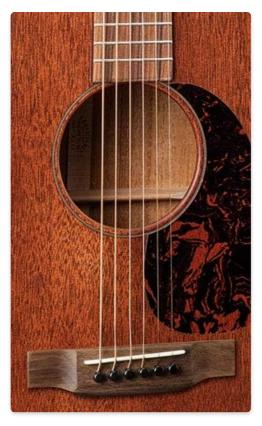


Figure 3: Martin D-15M Soundhole and Bridge Detail

# 4. MAINTENANCE

### 4.1 Cleaning

After each use, wipe down the guitar with a soft, lint-free cloth to remove fingerprints, sweat, and dust. For a deeper clean, use a guitar-specific polish and cleaner, applying it sparingly to a cloth and then wiping the guitar body. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or household chemicals.

## **4.2 Humidity Control**

Maintaining proper humidity levels (ideally 45-55% relative humidity) is crucial for the longevity and structural integrity of your all-solid wood guitar. Low humidity can cause wood to shrink, leading to cracks, while high humidity can cause swelling and warping. Store the guitar in its gig bag or case with a humidifier, especially in dry climates.

# 4.3 String Replacement

Strings should be replaced regularly, typically every 1-3 months depending on playing frequency and sweat acidity. Old strings lose their brightness and intonation. When replacing, consider using Martin's recommended nickel strings for optimal performance.

#### 4.4 Fretboard Care

The rosewood fretboard may benefit from occasional conditioning to prevent drying and cracking. Use a small amount of fretboard oil (such as lemon oil) applied to a cloth, wipe onto the fretboard, and then wipe off any excess. Do this during string changes.

### 4.5 Storage

Always store your Martin D-15M in its gig bag or a hard case when not in use. This protects it from dust,

physical damage, and helps maintain a stable humidity environment.



Figure 4: Martin D-15M Acoustic Guitar, Back View

# 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

### 5.1 Buzzing Strings

- Action too low: If strings buzz when played open or fretted, the string action might be too low. This can be adjusted at the saddle or truss rod.
- Uneven frets: High or uneven frets can cause buzzing. This requires professional attention.
- **Neck relief:** Improper neck relief (too straight or too bowed) can cause buzzing. Adjust the truss rod carefully, or consult a guitar technician.
- Old/worn strings: Worn strings can sometimes buzz. Replace them.

### **5.2 Tuning Instability**

- **New strings:** New strings stretch and will go out of tune frequently for the first few days. Stretch them manually.
- Improper string winding: Ensure strings are properly wound around the tuning pegs with sufficient wraps.
- **Humidity changes:** Rapid changes in humidity can cause the wood to expand or contract, affecting tuning. Maintain stable humidity.
- Worn tuning machines: If tuning pegs slip or feel loose, they may need adjustment or replacement.

#### 5.3 Dull or Muffled Sound

- Old strings: The most common cause. Replace old, corroded strings with a fresh set.
- Excessive humidity: High humidity can make the wood swell, dampening the guitar's resonance. Ensure proper humidity control.
- **Internal bracing issues:** Rarely, loose or cracked internal bracing can affect sound. This requires professional repair.

# 6. SPECIFICATIONS

The following table provides detailed specifications for the Martin D-15M Acoustic Guitar:

Feature	Detail

Feature	Detail
Model Number	D-15M
Body Type	Dreadnought
Top Material	Mahogany Wood
Back Material	Mahogany
Body Material	Mahogany
Neck Material Type	Mahogany
Fretboard Material	Rosewood
Color Name	Dark Mahogany
Finish	Satin
Number of Strings	6
Scale Length	25.4 inches
String Material	Nickel
Hand Orientation	Right
Item Weight	0.01 ounces (shipping weight may vary)
Product Dimensions	9.25 x 47.24 x 20.47 inches



Figure 5: Martin D-15M Key Features

# 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Martin Guitar products are known for their quality and craftsmanship. For specific warranty information, including coverage details and duration, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Martin Guitar website. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

For technical support, service, or to find authorized repair centers, please visit the official Martin Guitar website or contact their customer service department. You can find more information and resources at the MARTIN Store on Amazon or the main Martin Guitar website.

#### **Related Documents**



#### Martin Acrobat User Manual

User manual for the Martin Acrobat automated disco lighting fixture, detailing installation, safety, DMX and stand-alone operation, troubleshooting, and specifications. Features strobe effects, dimming, color/gobo options, and mirror drum control.



#### Martin MAC 2000 Profile User Manual

This user manual provides comprehensive instructions for the Martin MAC 2000 Profile, covering installation, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of this professional lighting fixture.



RUSH SM 650 Smoke Machine: Product Overview and Specifications | Martin Professional

Detailed information on the Martin RUSH SM 650 smoke machine, including features, technical specifications, performance, connections, and ordering details. Ideal for DJs and live events.



#### Martin JEM ZR Series User Manual

Comprehensive user manual for the Martin JEM ZR series fog machines (ZR25, ZR35, ZR45), covering safety precautions, product overview, installation, operation, control settings, DMX control, approved fluids, basic service, troubleshooting, and technical specifications.

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Documents - MARTIN - D-15M

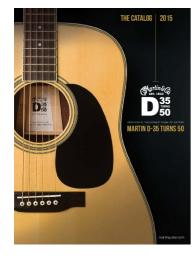
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